

SRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY (Minister of State for Small Scale Industries).—

(a) 369.

(b) Karnataka Small Industries Corporation Ltd., Bangalore, does not advance loans.

(c) Gulbarga has been declared as an industrially backward district, as a result of which a number of incentives and concessions are available to entrepreneurs of Gulbarga. An Industrial Estate has been established in Gulbarga with 16 sheds. The KSIC Ltd., has also established a Raw Material Depot at Gulbarga.

Government have advanced Rs. 6,31,354 to Small Scale Units in the District under the State Aid to Industries Act and have assisted them to obtain over Rs. 25 lakhs as loan from Banks and Karnataka State Financial Corporation.

(d) According to available information there are three Small Scale Units owned by Scheduled Castes.

*Increase in Prices of Agricultural Materials*

803. SRI K. M. DORESWAMY NAIDU (Bethamangala).—

Will the Minister for Food and Civil Supplies be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that electricity charges, prices of manure, iron etc., required for cultivation have doubled ;

(b) whether the Government have thought of increasing the prices of levy grains to be purchased by Government in view of the increased cost in the production of foodgrains ;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to provide proper price to the growers by purchasing any quantity of paddy and other grains at market rates for stocking the food-grains by Government ?

SMT E. E. VAZ (Minister for Food and Civil Supplies).—

(a) Yes, increase in price has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.